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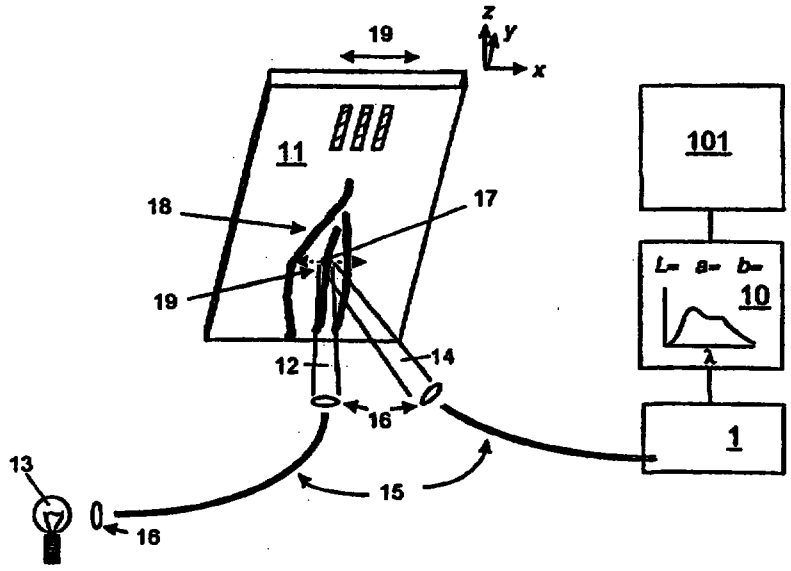
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(54) Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD TO QUANTIFY APPEARANCE DEFECTS IN MOLDED PLASTIC PARTS



(57) Abstract

A spatially–resolved spectrometer (10) is used to measure streaking in molded sample plastic parts (11) produced using a molding tool (2) with various mold inserts (32) which produce certain desired topological surface features upon these sample plastic parts (11). The measurements from one or more of these sample plastic parts (11) are then provided to a computerized device (101) which appropriately filters the data and calculates overall data shape, average peak and valley shift, and a quality number indicative of data slopes. These calculations are then used to determine an optimum set of ingredients and processing conditions to be used for the full–scale plastic part production.